

2009 ACTION PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2004, the City of Idaho Falls became an “entitlement city” in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. This status entitles the city to annual grant funding from HUD. To utilize these funds the City adopts a five year strategy with annual implementing action plans. The 2004-2009 Strategic Plan for Housing and Community Development is a plan that presents a profile of identified community development needs and priorities. Generally those priorities are: improving ageing neighborhoods; revitalizing historic downtown, and supporting public services for low and moderate income families.

This 2009 Action Plan details the programs and/or activities that the City will assist with FY 2009 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds.

In the four years of actual operations, the target neighborhoods are being cleaned up, a housing rehab programs activated, and a street paving project completed; downtown has finished a parking lot, completed an overall design study and implemented a facade improvement program; public services include public transportation and job training.

CONSULTATION AND CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Project proposals are solicited by letter, e-mails, and phone calls to city council members, non-profit agencies, city departments and interested groups that have expressed an interest in CDBG funding for their needs. Other groups, such as United Way, that serve low and moderate income persons are also informed that project applications are being accepted.

The Affordable Housing Task Force is also consulted and advised of the application process. The task force is made up of social service providers, homeless services, Health and Welfare, Idaho Housing, Legal Aid and others. These members have hands-on experience of the needs and issues of people in need.

From this consultation process come the applications for funding. The applications are reviewed for eligibility and national objectives. This review includes consultation with our HUD Field Representative. Proposals are then submitted to the Mayor and Council and the public hearing held. Applicants are personally informed of the hearing so that they may make a statement for the record. Most take advantage of the hearing to present their request and answer questions. During the 30 day comment period, City Council, in work session, discusses the projects and the strategic goals and discusses a list of projects to be funded to be included in this Annual Plan. At the end of the comment period the Council considers the comments, any new information, makes any amendments and adopts the Annual Plan.

Draft Public Notice for the Annual Plan public hearing was sent to the *Post-Register* on December 1st. The Public Hearing Notices were published on Dec 7th and 14th and the City Council Public Hearing held December 18th. The 30 day Public comment period extended to Jan 22nd. Eleven comments were received in support Haven project and the Crisis Intervention

project. The City Council work session was held on January 6th to discuss projects for the annual plan. The plan, public comments, and project funding were discussed; any changes to the plan made and the Plan was adopted by City Council Resolution January 22st 2009. .

RESOURCES

The FY09 Annual Action Plan is the final year of the Five Year Plan. Congress has not yet passed the FY09 HUD budget. Based on past allocations for Idaho Falls, our guesstimate for FY09 is \$425,000. The highest allocation was \$491,000 received in FY04.

The City of Idaho Falls receives only the CDBG funds. It does not receive any other HUD programs directly.

The other HUD programs: HOME funding, Homeless Assistance Section 8 and the Low Income Tax Credits are managed by the Idaho Housing and Finance Association on a statewide basis.

There are no City funding programs for housing. The City electrical department manages the Energy Star Program; will conduct energy audits for homeowners and collects donations for emergency payments for utility bills.

Several sources match the CDBG funds; the Weatherization funds in the Housing Rehab program; matching Habitat funding; matching federal transportation funding, and Fair Housing funding for accessibility. In this manner the CDBG funding assists agencies to secure additional funding to serve low and moderate income persons.

Sources of Funds and Federal Resources

There are many financial resources available to communities and to non-profits that assist in the provision of affordable housing and social services. The major sources of funding are from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The City of Idaho Falls receives only the Community Development Block Grant funding directly; the other funding sources listed here are managed by the Idaho Housing and Finance Association and are available to developers and non-profits.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Each year the City of Idaho Falls is entitled to receive an annual allocation of CDBG funds. The City Council is able to direct these funds to the construction of water sewer and street; provide access for persons with disabilities, expand social services for low and moderate income persons; assist with repairs to homes and assist with the development of affordable housing.

HOME Block Grant Program

The HUD HOME Program is a block grant funding made available to The Idaho Housing and Finance Association (IHFA). It is designed to encourage partnerships between federal, state and

local governments, housing developers, and nonprofit service agencies to expand the supply of decent, safe, sanitary and affordable housing. This is accomplished through down payment/closing cost assistance, acquisition, and construction and rehabilitation of single-family and multi-family affordable housing for low-income families across Idaho.

Through a competitive application process, IHFA provides successful applicants with low-interest loans and in some cases recoverable grants, to help finance affordable housing projects. The Projects funded by HOME have strict requirements for rent controls, income eligibility of tenants and home owners, housing development costs and long-term affordability requirements.

HOPWA--Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS

Idaho Housing and Finance Association (IHFA) currently has 8 contracted HOPWA service providers throughout the State of Idaho.

Emergency Shelter Grant Program Funds (ESG)

Idaho Housing and Finance Association (IHFA) manages the funds for Emergency Shelter Grant Program Funds (ESG) as authorized by Title IV of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act. The funds are distributed on a competitive basis to homeless shelters

Eligible activities under the ESG program regulations are:

- Rehabilitation/renovation/conversion of emergency shelters
- Essential services provided in conjunction with emergency shelters
- Operations and/or maintenance of emergency shelters
- Homeless prevention

Supportive Housing Program

Idaho Housing and Finance Association (IHFA) has the Supportive Housing Program which provides housing and services only to persons who are chronically homeless. Families or single parents with children cannot be served. The program funds are used to lease additional housing units for chronically homeless persons.

Section 8 Rental Assistance:

Under contract with HUD, IHFA administers federal rental assistance programs that help low-income families and elderly or disabled individuals obtain decent, affordable rental housing.

To be eligible for rental assistance, tenants must qualify under HUD income limits and other eligibility criteria. Tenants under these programs pay 30 percent of their adjusted gross monthly income for rent and utilities. As a tenant's income changes, the tenant's rent share changes proportionately.

The demand for rental assistance far exceeds the supply. Persons requiring rental assistance can apply at the IHFA Branch Office that serves their region. An IHFA branch office is located in Idaho Falls.

Housing Tax Credits

The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, established under the 1986 Tax Reform Act, provides an incentive to developers to build affordable rental housing. As Idaho's designated Housing Tax Credit administrator, IHFA receives an annual Housing Tax Credit authority on behalf of the state. This annual credit authority is allocated through a competitive application process.

IHFA Loan

IHFA has the ability and lending expertise to offer affordable housing developers a full array of financing alternatives. These range from standalone construction and/or permanent loan financing, to a more complex financing structure which combines both the construction and permanent loans into a single “one-stop” financing transaction.

Use of these Resources

The housing and social service providers in the city make continual use of these funding sources. The Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership has developed housing projects using some of these programs and CLUB Inc. uses several of these programs to purchase housing and manage its affordable housing programs. The City of Refuge shelter receives emergency shelter funding. Habitat for Humanity's local affiliate uses HUD funding to match local funding to purchase land for its projects.

Several of the privately owned affordable housing developments in the city were supported by these programs for the initial development. In past years a new development on the west side of Idaho Falls was financed with IHFA programs.

In Idaho Falls there are six Section 8 housing projects built over the years. There are five HOME or Housing Tax Credit financed projects and one currently under construction.

There are also three Transitional Housing projects and four Emergency Shelters. The agencies: EICAP, CLUB, Inc., FAITH, City of Refuge, and Domestic Violence Intervention Center own most of these projects.

The previous uses of the CDBG funds

The **2004 Annual Action Plan** represents the initial Entitlement allocation of CDBG funds in the amount of \$491,000. Those FY04 activities funded are:

1. Street Improvements – Highland Park	Census tract 9711	\$300,000
LMI Neighborhood		
2. Code Enforcement Activities	Census tracts 9707,	\$ 13,000
LMI Neighborhoods	9711 and 9712	
3. Bel Aire Park Improvements	Census tract 9707	\$ 20,000
LMI Neighborhood		
4. Downtown Parking Lot	Census tract 9711	\$ 30,000
Slum & Blight Area		
5. Eastern Idaho Technical College	1600 S. 25 th E.	\$ 15,000
LMI Educational Services		
6. Targhee Reg. Public Transit Authority	Citywide	\$ 15,000
LMI Transportation Assistance		
7. CDBG Administration/Fair Housing	Citywide	\$ 88,000
Planning Activities	Census tract 9711	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
TOTAL		<u>\$491,000</u>

Since the FY04 funds were unspent at the time of drafting the FY05 Annual Action Plan, the two action plans overlap and were administered simultaneously. Some activities were conducted jointly and the funding spent simultaneously.

The **2005 Annual Action Plan** represents the second Entitlement allocation of CDBG funds in the amount of \$465,543. Those FY05 activities funded are:

<u>FY05 ACTIVITIES (Aug. 1, 2005)</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>FY05 FUNDING</u>
1. Street Improvements	Census tract 9711	\$300,000
LMI Neighborhoods		
2. Code Enforcement Activities	Census tracts 9707,	\$ 13,000
LMI Neighborhoods	9711 and 9712	
3. Neighborhood Parks or		
Public Access Improvements	Census tract 9707,	\$ 29,435
LMI ADA Access	9711 and 9712	
4. Eastern Idaho Technical College	1600 S. 25 th E.	\$ 15,000
LMI Educational Services		
5. Targhee Reg. Public Transit Authority	Citywide	\$ 15,000
LMI Transportation Assistance		
6. CDBG Administration/Fair Housing	Citywide	<u>\$ 93,108</u>
And Planning		
TOTAL		<u>\$465,543</u>

The **2006 Annual Action Plan** represents the third Entitlement allocation of CDBG funds in the amount of \$418,940. Those FY06 activities funded are:

Project Description	Grant Award	Strategic Plan Priority - Objective	National Objective	HUD Eligible Activity	CFR cite
Downtown Facade loan/grant program	\$100,500	ED Downtown	Slum & Blight	Rehab & Preservation	570.202(a)(3)
Highland Park Paving (cost overruns)	\$80,000	CD Neighborhood	LMI Area	Public Facility	570.201(c)
Neighborhood cleanup	\$13,000	CD Code Enforcement	LMI Area	Public Service	570.201(e)
Equipment for LMI property graffiti removal program	\$5,000	CD Code Enforcement	LMI direct	Public Service	570.201(e)
Special riders' pickup – TRPTA	\$15,000	CD Accessibility	LMI Direct	Public Service	570.201(e)
Purchase lot for Habitat home	\$25,000	H Home Buyers	LMI Household	Acquisition	570.201(a)
Housing Rehabilitation loan program -- EICAP	\$96,652	H Services	LMI Household	Rehab & Preservation	570.202(a)(1)
Grant Administration & Fair Housing	\$83,788	Administration	General	Administration	570.206
Total	\$418,940				

FY07 CDBG Funding

This is the fourth year of funding in the amount of \$417,257

Pri- ority	Agency	Project Description	Dollar request	Total Project	Eligible Activity	National Objective
1	Family Justice Center	Purchase and renovate building	125,000		Public Facility	LMI Presumed
2	IFDDC	Facade Improvements	100,142	Business match	Rehab	<i>Slum & Blight</i>
3	City of Refuge	Purchase and install commercial stove & oven	6,000		<i>Public service</i>	LMI Presumed
4	TRPTA	New bus for off route pickups	20,000	115,000	<i>Public Service</i>	LMI access
5	Code Enforcement Planning	Code enforcement and Neighborhood Cleanup staff	17,000		Code enforcement	LMI Areas
6	Shepherd's Inn	New roof	6,000		Public Facility	LMI family or homelessness
7	Development Workshop	Purchase building	50,000		Public Facility	LMI Presumed
8	Life, Inc.	Individual Accessibility retrofits	9,664		Rehab	LMI Housing Document Incomes
9	Planning Grant Admin	Grant staff	83,451			
		Total requests	417,257			

FY08 CDBG Projects

With official allocation amount

As approved by city council 1-24-08 Work session

Applicant	Project	\$ approved	National Objective benefit
LIFE Inc.	handicapped access for LMI homeowners	\$30,000	Five LMI homeowners
EICAP	housing Rehab for LMI homeowners	\$50,000	10 LMI homeowners
City/ Bike-Ped	Sidewalk Replacement grants ½ to 2/3 mile	\$53,780	30-50 LMI homeowners
City/ IFDDC	Downtown renovations	\$75,000	Slum and Blight prevention
EICAP	Grandparents raising grandchildren Legal assistance	\$5,000	LMI Public Service
EICAP	Haven Shelter repaving courtyard	\$18,000	LMI Homeless
EICAP	Near Homelessness assistance payments to keep families in their homes	\$10,000	60 LMI families Public Service
Library RR Crossing	Handicapped access	\$30,000	LMI Disabled persons
City Code Enforcement	Neighborhood Cleanup	\$20,000	LMI neighborhoods
TRPTA	Purchase bus for disability routes.	\$20,000	Buses for LMI Disabled persons
Addiction Rehab	Rewire Breaker box	\$10,000	LMI Persons
Administration		\$80,444	
Total approved		\$402,224	

SPECIFIC ANNUAL OBJECTIVES

The city's proposed projects for FY09 will carry out its objectives in the Community Development, Economic Development, Housing and Public Service priorities that are described in the Five Year Strategic Plan. The following tables identify the projects and how they carry out the specific priorities and objectives of the five year plan.

FY09 PROPOSED PROJECTS

According to the Community Development Act and the implementing HUD regulations, funds can be used in twenty-some different activities. Some of the more common project types are: Public Services, Grant program administration, Public Facility construction or improvements, Acquisition of real property, Housing Rehab or business loan programs.

Because the U.S. Congress requires the projects funded to create a documented benefit, projects must be able to create benefits in one of the following National Objective categories:

***Benefit to low and moderate income persons or
Prevention or elimination of conditions of Slums or Blight.***

Potential projects were solicited thru letters to potentially interested organizations, discussions with the United Way, The Affordable Housing Task Force, City Council contacts, discussions with City Departments and program publicity. An estimated half-million dollars in projects were ultimately included in the list of 14 projects for City Council consideration.

The list of potential projects was submitted to City Council and a Public Hearing was held December 18, 2008. The required 30 day comment period extended to January 22, 2009. Other than the testimony from project sponsors at the Public Hearing, eight comments were received during the comment period.

After consideration of the projects and discussion of the need and impacts, the Mayor and City Council selected the following list of projects to fund with the FY08 CDBG allocation at their City council meeting January 22, 2009.

ALLOCATION PRIORITIES

The City Council selected projects for the FY09 funding because each one meets a National Objective; each one is an Eligible Activity; each one carries out a priority and objective of the Five Year Strategic Plan and produces an Outcome Measure. The target area for the use of the funds is the older ageing neighborhoods that generally comprise the three US Census Tracts 9707, 9711, 9712 each of which contain more than 51% low and moderate income persons. Over 70% of the FY07 funding will be spent in this target area. See the map in the Geographic distribution Section.

In addition, City Council prefers projects that improve ageing neighborhoods, assist non-profits improve their services to their clients and improve hard assets.

These following tables provide not only a quick summary of the projects and funding commitments but also information on how each project fulfills the City's Five Year Strategic Plan goals, HUD's regulations and Performance requirements. More detailed narrative follows the tables.

Congress has not yet passed the HUD budget for FY09. Based on past allocations, the City used and allocation estimate of \$425,000, This figure was used in the project selection process.

Based on a FY09 allocation of \$425,000:

The categories for use locally are:		Projects Approved	Public Service
LMI	\$275,000 = 81% of balance	\$211,250	\$63,750
Slum and Blight	\$ 65,000 = 19% of balance	\$ 65,000	0
Admin	\$ 85,000 = 20% of Total	<u>\$ 85,000</u>	0
		425,000	

Public Service = 15% of Total = \$63,750 may be allocated from the LMI or S&B categories.

Approved \$63,750

Approximately 81% of the total funding will be allocated to LMI projects and 19% will be allocated to Slum and Blight projects.

OTHER MATCHING RESOURCES

The Downtown Facade grant/loan program will match business investments depending on the mix of grants, but at least \$17,000 in cash match will be committed. The three housing/shelter projects will find match from private, state and federal sources to round out their project budgets. The funding will come from private fund raising for the Haven and from the Idaho Housing and Finance Association, and Department of Health and Welfare. The total match will be approximately \$351,280.

Several projects will be wholly or partially funded with \$125,000 FY07 funds returned to the from the Family Crisis Center project which has not been able to find a suitable building to acquire. This makes the total grant funds awarded to be \$550,000.

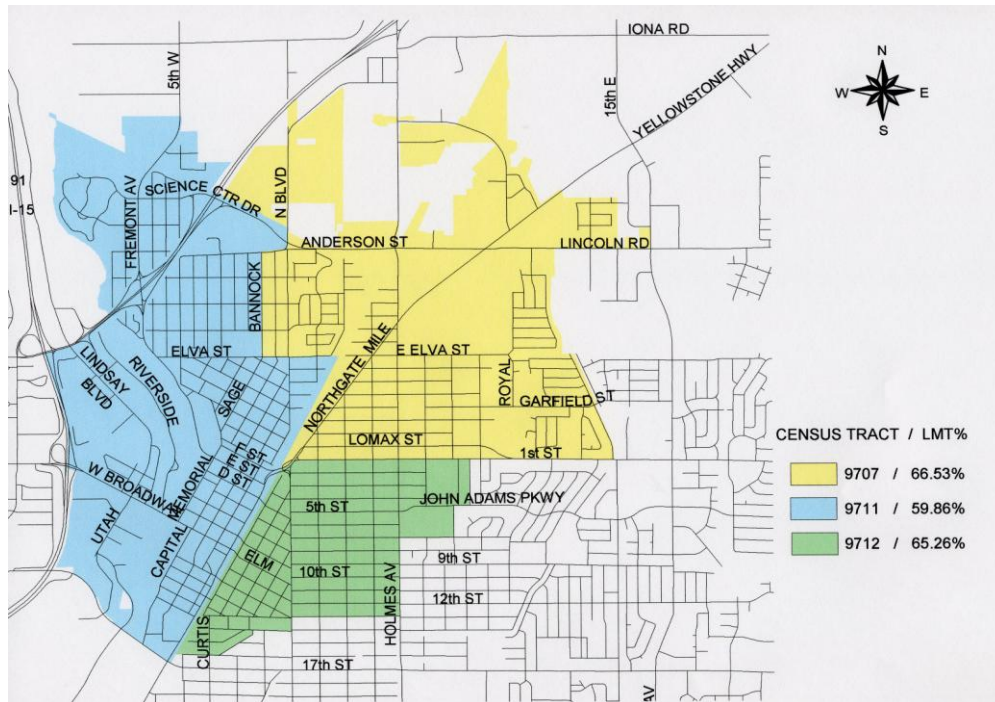
Approved FY09 Projects Priorities and Objectives and Outcomes

Applicant	Grant Amount	City Strategic Plan Priority	City Priority Level	HUD Performance Objectives	HUD Performance Outcomes
Community Council of Idaho	34,852	<i>PS Public Service Agencies</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Suitable Living Environment</i>	<i>Improving Sustainability</i>
EICAP	91,000	<i>PS Public Service Agencies</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Decent Housing</i>	<i>Improving Accessibility</i>
YMCA	50,000	<i>CD Accessibility</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>Suitable Living Environment</i>	<i>Improving Accessibility</i>
Development Workshop	82,598	<i>CD Neighborhoods</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Suitable Living Environment</i>	<i>Improving Sustainability</i>
LIFE, Inc.	35,000	<i>H Housing Rehabilitation</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Decent Housing</i>	<i>Improving Accessibility</i>
IFDDC	65,000	<i>ED Downtown</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Suitable Living Environment</i>	<i>Improving Sustainability</i>
Senior Center	6,550	<i>PS Public Service Agencies</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Suitable Living Environment</i>	<i>Improving Availability</i>
Housing First Pilot project	20,000	<i>PS Public Service Agencies</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Decent Housing</i>	<i>Improving Sustainability</i>
Crisis Intervention Housing	80,000	<i>CD Accessibility</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Suitable Living Environment</i>	<i>Improving Sustainability</i>

Approved FY09 Projects National Objectives and Eligible Activities

FY09 CDBG				
Applicant	Description	Amount	Code of Federal Regulation	Nat. Objective
Community Council of Idaho	Roof, re-flooring & paving at Head Start	34,852	570.201(c) Public facility	LMI Clientele
EICAP	New building at Haven	91,000	570.201(c) Public facility	LMI Clientele
YMCA	Replace sidewalks	50,000	570.201(c) Public facility	LMI Clientele
Development Workshop	Purchase State Building	82,598	570.201(a) acquisition	LMI Clientele
LIFE, Inc.	Homeowner handicapped access	35,000	570.202(a)(1) Housing Rehabilitation	LMI Clientele
IFDDC	Façade Improvements	65,000	570.202(a)(3) Commercial Rehabilitation	Slum and Blight
Senior Center	Kitchen improvements	6,550	570.201(c) Public facility	LMI Clientele
Housing First Pilot project	Program to house high cost homeless	20,000	570.201(e) Public Service	LMI Clientele
Crisis Intervention Housing	for mentally ill chronic homeless	80,000	570.201(e) Public Service	LMI Clientele
Administration	20% of allocation (estimate \$425,000)	85,000		
	Total	550,000	Includes FY07 funds	

LMI neighborhoods



GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

The Sidewalk Replacement program, Code Enforcement Activities, and Downtown Facade program will all occur within the three “low and moderate” income Census tracts: 9707, 9711 and 9712. These projects comprise over 71% of the FY09 CDBG funds committed to these ageing neighborhoods which are the target areas for the funds. These neighborhoods started with the original town site and early subdivisions. City council is committed to preserving and improving these neighborhoods.

The EICAP and Crisis Intervention project benefit the homeless and mentally ill persons.

The following insert foldout shows by dots the locations of most of the funded projects and activities: Green dots for previous year funding; Red dots for the FY09 projects.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECTS

Background language from the Five Year Strategic Plan is included here to provide the reader a starting point for understanding a project's relationship to the City's plan goals and objectives.

*The Five Year Plan language is in the **Times New Roman** typeface.*

The project description is in a box following the section of the plan it accomplishes.

FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES, OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS

The City of Idaho Falls' 2004-2009 Strategic Plan is a comprehensive planning document identifying the community's needs for low- and moderate-income persons. It is the primary objective of this Plan to provide decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities for individuals and families utilizing the Community Development Block Grant funds.

Through an extensive process the City established priorities in **Community Development, Economic Development, Housing, and Public Services**. Within each priority area objectives were established identifying what the City plans to achieve. Strategies were outlined as to what actions will be taken to accomplish these objectives. Performance measures were then identified that will help evaluate the progress of these efforts.

Working with community partners, the City will be able to bring together federal, state, and local funding resources together to address the following priorities:

Community Development Priority

Support neighborhood revitalization activities that promote public health, safety and welfare.

Objective One

Provide funding for infrastructure that will continue to make older neighborhoods attractive places to work and live.

Strategies

1. Repair and replace water and wastewater lines, streets, drainage, street lighting and other infrastructure in qualifying neighborhoods as a way to promote community pride, and encourage re-investments in neighborhoods.

YMCA Sidewalk Replacement. The YMCA building was originally built in the 1950's and has been added to over the years. The sidewalks around the block and up to the building are deteriorated and becoming hazardous. A new sidewalk is needed from the city street and sidewalk to provide wheel chair access to the building. A project description will be developed and reviewed by city engineering, city tree committee and public works. A city contractor will install the new sidewalk sections.

Objective Three

Ensure that public owned facilities and services are accessible to all citizens and in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Strategies

1. Support renovation activities that improve public owned buildings and city parks with ADA accessibility compliance.

YMCA Sidewalk Replacement. The YMCA building was originally built in the 1950's and has been added to over the years. A new sidewalk is needed from the city street and sidewalk to provide wheel chair access to the building.

Economic Development Priority

Improve economic conditions throughout the community, principally for Low to Moderate Income (LMI) persons.

Objective One

Help to create a strong and vital downtown thus opening up opportunities for existing and new business development.

1. Support activities that address building codes, help preserve historic properties, and assist property owners with a facade improvement program.

Performance Measurement

Downtown Facade Loan/Grant Program – This activity will create a program for matching grants for business signs, awnings and minor facade restoration to improve the appearance and attractiveness of business facades in the historic downtown of Idaho Falls. Also a facade restoration loan program will be created for major historic facade restoration projects. This program will prevent the deterioration of business properties; begin creating compatibility of building appearance and restoring the historic attractiveness of the business properties.

The maximum assistance per project will be thirty thousand dollars. This will accomplish 3 properties being improved. Already, 2 property owners have shown strong interest to be involved in the program.

Housing Development Priority

Encourage the development of new, affordable single-, multi-family, and special needs housing in the community through private developers and non-profits.

1. Support the efforts of non-profit groups in new home construction, i.e. Habitat for Humanity, Eastern Idaho Special Services Agency.

Performance Measurement

Objective Four

Promote supportive services and facilities for frail elderly, disabled persons, low-income families (renters), or other persons with special needs.

1. Promote the formation of cooperative efforts to create the necessary facilities and services that will effectively transition persons who are homeless to appropriate permanent housing settings.

Performance Measurement

Housing First pilot project is to identify and house two homeless persons that use the highest level of services. Supportive services will be provided until the individuals are stabilized and self supportive. The project is to demonstrate that having a home is the first step in assisting the homeless and that public costs can be reduced. This is a cooperative project among the six to eight local and state housing and social service agencies in Idaho Falls.

Housing Development Priority

Strategies -- Support applications for all housing assistance programs that meet the City's needs and policies. Support the efforts of non-profit groups in home construction, i.e. Habitat for Humanity, Eastern Idaho Special Services Agency.

Activity --

National Objective --- LMI Household

LIFE, Inc. has a program to construct accessibility features in homes. This funding will allow the agency to assist additional homeowners to improve the existing affordable housing stock within the city. This will help stabilize older neighborhoods and improve the livability of affordable housing. This amount should benefit 4 to 5 homes this year.

Crisis Intervention Housing is the result of the Task Force of community policing, social service and housing providers. The project is to provide police officers an alternative when defusing a conflict situation involving a mentally ill person. Currently the only options are jail or the emergency room. Crisis housing also provides staff for observation, counseling and security. Police Officers are trained to identify a situation involving a mentally ill person and to determine which alternative to use.

Objective Five

Increase involvement by community leaders, businesses, organizations and service providers in planning, developing and implementation of all housing activities.

Strategies

1. Supporting activities that increase the awareness of fair housing in the community and the housing disparities of protected classes such as minorities and the disabled.

Performance Measurement

The city and the local Realtors are planning a regional **fair housing training** this year. HUD is willing to provide their national training consultants. This one day workshop will cover the fair housing and housing construction requirements.

Public Service Priority

Encourage social service providers, faith-based groups, private businesses, school districts, non-profit agencies and community leaders to work together to comprehensively meet the needs of families in poverty.

Objective Two

Strengthen the ability of community organizations to help plan and carry out programs for their targeted clientele.

Strategies:

1. Address key social and human service needs, especially those related to youth development, family support, child care, senior services, homelessness support services, financial counseling, victims of domestic violence, transportation, educational, and employment training.

EICAP has received a donation of land and funds to construct a new building to expand the existing Haven Women's Shelter . This will provide class room space, additional housing units, and storage space for donations.

Senior Center meals programs is in need of new stoves as the existing stoves are so old that parts are no longer available. The Center serves on site meals and meals on wheels.

Community Council of Idaho provides many services for migrant families. One service is Head Start daycare. The existing building is in need of new roofing , new flooring and parking lot paving.

Development Workshop provides vocational training for persons with disabilities. They also provide life skills training and job placement services. The State is willing to sell their building on the workshop campus. The Price is still being negotiated.

9. CDBG Administration/Fair Housing/Planning Activities

Administration—

Within the Planning and Building Department is the staff position to administer the Community Development Block Grant funds. Funds will be used to pay for the salary and benefits for this position as well as travel, training costs, printing, legal notices, mailing costs, supplies, and other items deemed necessary in the management of the grant.

As identified in the Plan, many agencies and entities both locally and statewide are providing housing services and economic development support within the City. The CDBG grant administrator will be available to provide information, support and coordinating services to these groups.

The city and the local Realtors are planning a regional **fair housing training** this year. HUD is willing to provide their national training consultants. This one day workshop will cover the fair housing and housing construction requirements.

TIMETABLE

Unless otherwise noted in the project descriptions, all projects will have start dates consistent with the start of the FY 2007 program year, April 1, 2007. Unless otherwise noted, or approved by the City, all projects are to be completed by March 31, 2008. Timeliness will be emphasized with all subrecipients and City-sponsored projects. Projects not on schedule may be subject to decreases in award amounts or other actions designed to prevent the City in becoming untimely with its CDBG grant expenditure ratio.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

With FY09 funds the city will again support housing rehab thru LIFE, Inc.'s accessibility retro fit program for persons with disabilities. The organization assists persons with disabilities with training and personal services. When available, they use fair housing conciliation funding to retro fit homes for accessibility. This CDBG funding will assist 7 persons or families with improvements to accommodate a disability.

With FY06 funding a housing rehab program was established at the community action agency. The main target area for these funds is the ageing neighborhoods. It was again funded in FY08

In the city there are 6 - Section 8 projects, 5 - Tax Credit projects, 3 - Transitional projects and 4 - shelters. This is over 450 units and over 79 beds of affordable housing and shelter since a couple of projects are not included in this inventory. These projects are well maintained. None have been supported with the city's CDBG funding. There is not a housing authority in the city.

HOMELESS AND OTHER SPECIAL POPULATIONS

This year's funding to the city of the Haven serve the homeless directly. The Development workshop provides job training and life skills training for the developmentally disabled.

Previous year's public service projects directly benefit the homeless and special populations. Outreach and marketing will be conducted by EITC and TRPTA to inform service providers of the educational and transportation assistance being made available to their clients. It is anticipated that the majority of individuals to be served will be referred by the homeless shelters, disability services, transitional housing, public housing, or senior housing providers.

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

The city has a good network of state and non-profit service providers and shelter providers. The managers are well aware of each other and regularly communicate about availability of housing or services for clients. Generally a person or family in need has only to contact one agency to enter into the network.

Because of this network the number of chronic homeless is estimated by service providers to be over 100. Network members are involved in and participate in the Idaho Housing and Finance Association efforts to end homelessness.

NEEDS OF PUBLIC HOUSING

There is always a need for additional housing assistance for lower income families and individuals. The waiting list for housing assistance in any of the several local programs exceeds the housing available.

The Idaho Housing and Finance Association has the responsibility for public housing programs in Idaho Falls and Bonneville County through a local office. They administer the Housing Choice Vouchers, Special Needs Vouchers, Shelter Plus Care Vouchers, Mainstream Vouchers, SRO Mod Rehab Units and manage the Family Self Sufficiency Program. The City does not have a separate Public Housing Authority. The City's Planning and Building Department staff will continue to work closely with IHFA to identify public housing projects in order to maximize and increase the number of affordable housing units available to very low and extremely low-income families.

ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY

In January of 2004, the Partners for Prosperity Strategic Plan for Poverty Reduction (P4P) in Eastern Idaho were awarded a grant by the Northwest Area Foundation as a Community Ventures Partner with funding of \$10 million during a 10-year period. P4P is a regional organization based on the principles of inclusiveness and consensus building. The organization serves 16 counties of Eastern Idaho and the Fort Hall Indian Reservation and is dedicated to reducing poverty and increasing prosperity. The 10-year strategic plan reflects a strong commitment to prevent and diminish poverty.

The City of Idaho Falls is a substantial partner in these efforts and is serving as a member of the Regional Prosperity Task Force (RPTF). Over the 10 years, concerted efforts will be expended within the City to reduce the poverty level by providing education, employment, support systems and empowerment. Program strategies focus on the creation, growth, and preservation of prosperity. P4P will create opportunities for prosperity by strengthening existing resources and helping to develop new and innovative programs such as Individual Development

Accounts and entrepreneurship programs. These programs empower people in the lowest economic quartile to build wealth and maximize their potential.

At the Haven, P4P conducts classes for the GED program for tenants and others to complete their High School degree. It is a very successful program that meshes well with the life changing counseling the Haven provides.

Idaho State University serves as the grant administrator because of its regional presence and expertise, and infrastructure. They have established a local office in the City through a partnership with LIFE, Inc. a nonprofit agency that works to help disadvantaged populations live independently.

LEAD-BASED PAINT HAZARDS

The City of Idaho Falls, the Idaho Housing and Finance Association, Region VII District Health, and Eastern Idaho Special Services will provide information on lead-based paint hazards, precautions and symptoms to all homeowners, renters, and landlords involved in housing services and rehabilitation. All rehabilitation projects will follow the new regulations. These entities will continue to obtain training for contractors and program staff on lead hazard evaluation and reduction.

OTHER ACTIONS

The City has a grant administrator to manage the CDBG program and funds. This full-time position takes the lead to guide the City in meeting the priorities for Community Development, Economic Development, Housing, and Public Services. This individual provides information and support to the department heads in implementing programs and activities. This position collaborates with health, education, employment, and social service agencies to implement the City's anti-poverty strategies.

Responsibilities for this position are to strengthen and build relationships throughout the network of service providers assisting low-income individuals and special populations. This individual will actively work with housing organizations and service providers to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs, foster and maintain affordable housing, and remove barriers to affordable housing.

Participation with the Affordable Housing Task Force members will provide a monthly forum to address affordable housing, homeless and training issues. These meetings address obstacles and opportunities for meeting the needs of people in crisis. Very often, additional meetings occur among members to discuss clients, special projects, funding opportunities that are confidential or of limited interest to the larger group.

MONITORING

The City has adopted a Monitoring Plan, the details of the monitoring standards and procedures can be found in the Strategic Plan, Part Six, Page 4. The selection of the subrecipients to be monitored will be based upon the risk analysis presented in the monitoring guidelines. All draw requests for both subrecipients and City-sponsored projects are submitted on an official form requiring progress and financial information. Quarterly progress reports

including financial information, beneficiaries, and narratives are required of all projects. Constant communication and technical assistance will be offered at all stages of the program and/or activity to ensure compliance with appropriate regulations.